



**SOUTH DAKOTA
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SPARROW RECOGNIZED BY GOV. DAUGAARD

PIERRE, S.D. – Thomas Sparrow, Turner County Veterans Service Officer, was recognized today during Gov. Daugaard's State of the State address.

Sparrow was credited for his commitment and dedication to the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs' Operation RAV campaign. Throughout the last nine months, Tom made over 11,000 calls to veterans and family members.

"Tom's dedication to South Dakota's veterans was evidenced in his strong passion and his even stronger sense of purpose," said SDDVA Secretary Larry Zimmerman. "He took great pride in what he did and who he did it for."

"We were successful in this endeavor because of the full complement of our partners, the county and tribal veterans service officers", said Zimmerman. "Many VSO's, like Sparrow, completed their respective list and then assisted neighboring counties."

"Operation RAV afforded South Dakota the opportunity to educate veterans and their families about benefits, programs and services, to listen to their concerns, to give them key contacts to work with on a local level, and to say 'thank you,'" said Zimmerman.

